

Breaking News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board backs Morongo CSD

SAN BERNARDINO- The Board of Supervisors approved two items during today's Board meeting that are crucial to the functionality of the Morongo Valley Community Services District (MVCSD).

The Board approved a lease agreement with MVCSD in which the District will continue to operate and maintain a portion of the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve Area. This area has been operated and maintained by the MVCSD since 1979.

Under the terms of the new lease, the District will continue to operate and maintain the lease area and will pay the Regional Parks Department an annual payment of \$600 (\$50 per month) during the term of this lease. The period of the lease begins October 6, 2015 through September 30, 2025 with two five-year renewal options.

Along with the lease agreement, the Board also approved a temporary loan of equipment between the San Bernardino County Fire Department and the Morongo Valley Fire Department.

Currently, MVCSD's only Fire Truck Engine is in need of extensive repairs, leaving MVCSD without the equipment needed for the Morongo Valley Fire Department to respond to emergency incidents. According to an existing Mutual Aid Agreement, in the absence of MVCSD's engine it would become necessary for the County Fire Department to respond to MVCSD's emergency incident calls.

Chairman James Ramos, whose Third District includes the MVCSD, concerned for the lives and property of MVCSD residents, urgently drafted a letter requesting that County Fire arrange to temporarily loan MVCSD a Fire Truck Engine that could respond to the emergency needs of residents in the Morongo Valley. The County Fire Department had an available reserve Fire Truck Engine and agreed to loan MVCSD the truck for a period not to exceed 90 days.

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"Ensuring that residents are protected by fire services is crucial," Chairman Ramos stated. "I wanted to eliminate any potential hardships to those who would have been affected by the absence of fire protection services from the Morongo Valley Fire Department."

More information on these items can be found in the October 6th agenda at <http://cob-sire.sbcounty.gov/sirepub/>.

*Plus Photo attachment- County Fire Truck Engine ready to be transported to the Morongo Valley.

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